

Saints put the clamps on Prairie girls

Written by Randy Krejci

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Xavier Coach Tom Lilly said before Friday night's girls basketball game that he wanted to score at least one more point than Prairie.

He didn't say how many points that might be, but it turned out it didn't have to be many.

No. 11 Xavier jumped off to a 19-1 lead and cruised past Prairie, 43-14, at the Saints gym.

Xavier (11-3, 7-3 MVC) shutout Prairie (3-9, 2-7) in the first quarter. The Hawks did not score until freshman Maddie Dellamuth hit the second of two free throws with 1:57 left in the second quarter. MacKenzie Blaha's 3-pointer with 25 second left accounted for Prairie's other first-half points. Xavier held a 19-4 lead at halftime.

Xavier junior Emily Walvoord was the only player in double figures with 16 points. Annie Dale and Krissi Tow chipped in nine points apiece.

Though cautiously optimistic, Lilly was concerned that Xavier needs to improve on playing hard for a full 32 minutes.

"We seem to have some games where we are strong 20-22 minutes but need to perform well throughout an entire game," he said.

PRAIRIE (14): Kaitilyn Yanecek 0 3-4 3, Katie Carver 0 1-2 1, Shelby Crist 0 0-0 0, Alisa Weiland 1 0-0 2, Katie Wieland 2 0-0 4, MacKenzie Blaha 1 0-0 3, Maddie Dellamuth 0 1-2 1, Cyerra Hutchins 0 0-0 0. Totals 4 5-8 14.

XAVIER (43): Kayla Armstrong 0 0-0 0, Katelyn Winker 0 0-0 0, Annie Dale 4 0-0 9, Ashley Dostal 0 0-0 0, Sarah Dickes 1 0-0 2, Alex Saxton 1 0-0 2, Rachel Wiltgen 0 0-0 0, Jennifer Murtha 0 0-0 0, Katlyn Anderson 1 1-4 3, Emily Walvoord 8 0-0 16, Krissi Tow 4 1-3 9, Alex

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Bartz 1 0-0 2. Totals 20 2-7 43.

Halftime -- Xavier 19, Prairie 4. 3-point goals -- Prairie 1 (Blaha), Xavier 1 (Dale). Fouls -- Prairie 8, Xavier 10.